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PSORIASIS
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OUR MISSION is to improve the quality of life of people who have psoriasis, arthritis. Through education and advocacy, we promote awareness and under access to treatment and support research that will lead to effective management a cure.

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Treatment

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Research

Community

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Psoriasis

Topicals

Topical steroids

Phototherapy

Systemics

Biologics

Alternative
approaches

Diet

Sun and water
therapy

Psoriatic Arthritis

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Treatment Guide

Ask the Expert

It Works for Me

You and Your Doctor

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► Take action

► Get connected

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Topical steroids

Potencies of topical steroids

Topical steroid medications come in various strengths, ranging from very strong, or superpotent (Class 1), very weak, or least potent (Class 7). Once a person has stopped responding to a steroid of a particular strength or potency, it is unlikely he or she will respond to any brand of steroid at an equal or lower strength unless an extended period of time has elapsed. The potency chart below provides the potencies of a variety of steroid medications used to treat psoriasis.

Generally, the stronger the steroid, the more effective it is in clearing psoriasis, but the risk of side effects also greater. The base, or formulation, of a steroid medication can also influence how much medication penetrates the tissue. Steroids come in a variety of bases, such as creams, ointments, gels, sprays, solutions, lotions, foam and tape.

Potency chart

The following potency chart categorizes brand-name topical steroid medications along with the name of the corresponding generic drug. The list positions these medications according to their potency. The list may not be comprehensive.

BRAND NAME	GENERIC NAME
CLASS 1 - Superpotent	
Clobex Lotion, 0.05%	Clobetasol propionate
Cormax Cream/Solution, 0.05%	Clobetasol propionate
Diprolene Gel/Ointment, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Olux Foam, 0.05%	Clobetasol propionate
Psorcon Ointment, 0.05%	Diflorasone diacetate
Temovate Cream/Ointment/Solution, 0.05%	Clobetasol propionate
Ultravate Cream/Ointment, 0.05%	Halobetasol propionate
CLASS 2 - Potent	
Cyclocort Ointment, 0.1%	Amcinonide
Diprolene Cream AF, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Diprosone Ointment, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Elocon Ointment, 0.1%	Mometasone furoate
Florone Ointment, 0.05%	Diflorasone diacetate
Halog Ointment/Cream, 0.1%	Halcinonide
Lidex Cream/Gel/Ointment, 0.05%	Fluocinonide
Maxiflor Ointment, 0.05%	Diflorasone diacetate

Maxivate Ointment, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Psorcon Cream 0.05%	Difflorasone diacetate
Topicort Cream/Ointment, 0.25%	Desoximetasone
Topicort Gel, 0.05%	Desoximetasone
CLASS 3 - Upper Mid-Strength	
Aristocort A Ointment, 0.1%	Triamcinolone acetonide
Cutivate Ointment, 0.005%	Fluticasone propionate
Cyclocort Cream/Lotion, 0.1%	Amcinonide
Diprosone Cream, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Florone Cream, 0.05%	Difflorasone diacetate
Lidex-E Cream, 0.05%	Fluocinonide
Luxiq Foam, 0.12%	Betamethasone valerate
Maxiflor Cream, 0.05%	Difflorasone diacetate
Maxivate Cream/Lotion, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Topicort Cream, 0.05%	Desoximetasone
Valisone Ointment, 0.1%	Betamethasone valerate
CLASS 4 - Mid-Strength	
Aristocort Cream, 0.1%	Triamcinolone acetonide
Cordran Ointment, 0.05%	Flurandrenolide
Derma-Smoother/FS Oil, 0.01%	Fluocinolone acetonide
Elocon Cream, 0.1%	Mometasone furoate
Kenalog Cream/Ointment/Spray, 0.1%	Triamcinolone acetonide
Synalar Ointment, 0.025%	Fluocinolone acetonide
Uticort Gel, 0.025%	Betamethasone benzoate
Westcort Ointment, 0.2%	Hydrocortisone valerate
CLASS 5 - Lower Mid-Strength	
Cordran Cream/Lotion/Tape, 0.05%	Flurandrenolide
Cutivate Cream, 0.05%	Fluticasone propionate
DermAtop Cream, 0.1%	Prednicarbate
DesOwen Ointment, 0.05%	Desonide
Diprosone Lotion, 0.05%	Betamethasone dipropionate
Kenalog Lotion, 0.1%	Triamcinolone acetonide
Locoid Cream, 0.1%	Hydrocortisone butyrate
Pandel Cream 0.1%	Hydrocortisone probutate
Synalar Cream, 0.025%	Fluocinolone acetonide
Uticort Cream/Lotion, 0.025%	Betamethasone benzoate

Valisone Cream/Ointment, 0.1%	Betamethasone valerate
Westcort Cream, 0.2%	Hydrocortisone valerate
CLASS 6 - Mild	
Aclovote Cream/Ointment, 0.05%	Alclometasone dipropionate
DesOwen Cream, 0.05%	Desonide
Synalar Cream/Solution, 0.01%	Fluocinolone acetonide
Tridesilon Cream, 0.05%	Desonide
Valisone Lotion, 0.1%	Betamethasone valerate
CLASS 7 - Least Potent	
Topicals with hydrocortisone, dexamethasone, methylprednisolone and prednisolone	

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- [Topical steroids](#)
- [Internal use of steroids](#)
- [Methods of using topical steroids](#)
- [Side effects of topical steroids](#)
- [Tips for using topical steroids](#)

